

spreads out in the flat below. As formerly stated, I have also seen a rank growth of briars on a claybank in the public road, and in various ways I have evidence of fertility in pure clay.

Will the Editor of the Southern Planter please give us a satisfactory explanation of this? If humus is not absolutely essential to the production of good crops, we may dispense with manure and the incorporation of all vegetable matter, and thus be rid of the greatest barrier to the improvement of our worn-out lands. If common clay is full of available plant food, what need of spending good money for commercial fertilizers? Is it possible that our worn-out lands still contain abundant fertility, as recent government experiments indicate, but that shallow plowing and imperfect preparation of the seed-bed fail to conserve sufficient moisture to hold the plant food in proper solution for absorption by the rootlets of the plant? Or does lack of cover crops, through much plowing, allow the sun to bake the life out of the land by destroying the nitrifying bacteria? Sunshine, you know, is noted for its germicidal qualities. Or does our poor cultivation of the land allow the available plant food to leach out, especially during the rainy season of winter? Has the soil been exhausted of its lime or other solvent bodies which furnish available plant food? Or is the soil so compacted in our poorly cultivated lands that air cannot penetrate and furnish nitrogen to the plant roots? May not old Jethro Tull have been right after all when he said that a thorough cultivation of the soil, with rotation of crops, would keep our lands rich? Who can tell? Has anybody had experience enough to know?

C. Karns.

We would like to hear what some of our readers have to say on this subject. We have so repeatedly expressed and emphasized our opinion on the importance of humus in the soil and deep and perfect cultivation that it is well known where we stand on this question. And yet, there would appear to be more factors involved in plant growth than these before a complete answer can be given to our correspondent. Let us have the subject discussed. We are prepared to join in the discussion and will help to solve the problem. It is of vital import to farmers of the South.—Editor Southern Planter.

#### Esthetic and Intellectual Features of Farm Life.

At a first glance this may not seem a practical subject for a farm paper, but if we do not build up a proper love of the beauties of nature about us and neglect the intellectual side of life, are we any better than the brutes about us? Let us now and then pause in the struggle for bread and wealth and remember the spiritual and mental phases of this existence of ours.

The idea that a town or city home should be more beautiful and contain more comforts and luxuries than that of a farmer, is an idea that is fast becoming obsolete. The telephone, free mail and the rural trolley line is a combination that is fast helping to eradicate such notions.

The farmer and his family have to work hard, and often the work is not as cleanly and as pleasant as might be desired, but most of his work is in partnership with nature, then ought we not to enjoy her richest blessings? The farmer's lawn should contain the richest flowers, the rarest shrubs and the finest trees in all the country, for who ought to know how to grow them better than he?

Let the housewife when she goes out on the shady porch to prepare the vegetables for dinner, have a pleasant view to refresh her eyes upon. How much more pleasant for her to behold the bed of monthly roses than a patch of ragweeds. A beautiful clump of cannas may be planted in that wet spot near the well, that the ducks now paddle in. Just fill it up with rich soil and put up a

closely woven wire fence so that the ducks and chickens cannot get in the yard, then set out a dozen cannas and let them throw out their great leaves of rich green.

Passing through a little city one hot summer afternoon, I saw many of the city women lying in hammocks, or sitting in lawn swings. Many of them were reading. Then I passed on out into the country and I found that hardly any of the farm homes had these luxuries. The farmer and his wife and children had worked harder than those city people, and yet they had no lawn swings, no hammocks and no porch chairs. Now all this is wrong, and it would have been better if the farmer had sold a steer or two and invested the money in some of these restful appliances.

We know of one woman who received a legacy from home, and instead of buying another forty acres, that would have only added more work for the whole family, she invested it in remodeling the house. She had porches built, put in a bath room, bought fine carpets, furniture and other luxuries that the husband had not felt able to provide. She bought one of the boys a nice repeating rifle, the other a bicycle and then the daughter was given a coveted prize, a new piano. In all she spent more than a thousand dollars, and some people might have said that she had better have put the money out on interest and given it to the children when they become of age, but those children will always remember that wonderful transformation in their home. For many years they will enjoy those things, and as the whole family was blessed by a more beautiful home, surely we think it was a wise investment. We know another woman that received more money, but it was loaned out, and one by one she counts the dollars of interest money in order that she may give her children something. Maybe they will handle it wisely and maybe they will not. These two homes are not many miles apart, and if it fell to my lot to choose which one I should live in, I know it would be in the first.

Every one has a right to some of the pleasures of life and those who make a slave of themselves and deny their own lives the pleasant things of life, are defeating a common law of humanity. It devolves upon every one of us to make a success of our own existence. This need not become selfishness, but the child of my mother has a right to a pleasant life, as has her grandchildren, and our children will honor and respect us in proportion as we respect ourselves.

The farmer's reading table and library should be as extensively supplied as that of a man of any other profession. Not alone with Journals and works of agriculture, but with those that broaden out and touch many fields. We should keep apace with the world's work, and those magazines that express the leading thoughts of the day, should be in the hand of every progressive farmer. We have more time to meditate and digest upon these things than has the city man, for we are more to ourselves. Then let us fill our minds with the progressive ideas of our times and not with neighborhood gossip.

Modern methods of farming will make a different man out of the agriculturist from now on. No longer does he go plodding along footsore and weary, too tired to think or care how the world goes, but he rides along in the pure atmosphere. He sits far more comfortable than the city man has, that hump is disappearing from his shoulders, and he stands among his fellows a model of appearance as well as strength.

Let us give our children a beautiful home, with plenty of comforts and a few of the luxuries of life, and let us build up our own life as well as theirs with some of the knowledge of the world. Proudly welcome the day when the esthetic and intellectual features of farm life shall exceed all that any other walk of life may possess.

## Girlhood, Womanhood, Motherhood.

The first lesson that the young girl has of womanhood is usually a painful one. She learns to know what headache means, and backache, and sometimes is sadly borne down by this new experience of life.

All the pain and misery which young girls commonly experience at such a time may, in almost every instance, be entirely prevented or cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It establishes regularity. It tones up the general health, and cures headache, backache, nervousness, chorea, or St. Vitus's dance, and other consequences of womanly weakness or disease.

#### MOTHER OF THE FAMILY.

The anxious mother of the family oftentimes carries the whole burden of responsibility so far as the home medication of common ailments of the girls or boys are concerned. The cost of the doctor's visits are very often much too great. At such times the mother is invited to write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., for medical advice, which is given free. Correspondence is held sacredly confidential.

#### IT STANDS ALONE.

"Favorite Prescription" is the only medicine for women the makers of which are not afraid to print just what it is made of on every bottle wrapper. It is the only medicine for women every ingredient of which has the unanimous endorsement of all the leading medical writers of this country, recommending it for the cure of the very same diseases for which this "Prescription" is advised.

#### A MOTHER'S LOVE.

A mother's love is so divine that the roughest man cannot help but appreciate it as the crown of womanhood. However, motherhood is often looked forward to with feelings of great dread by most women. At such times a woman is nervous, dyspeptic, irritable, and she is in need of a uterine tonic and nerve, a strength builder to fit her for the ordeal. No matter how healthy or strong a woman may be she cannot but be benefited by taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription to prepare for the event. It makes childbirth easy and often almost painless.

#### DR. PIERCE'S FAVORITE PRESCRIPTION

is a powerful, invigorating tonic. It imparts strength to the whole system and to the womb and its appendages in particular. For overworked "worn-out," "run-down," debilitated teachers, milliners, dressmakers, seamstresses, "shop-girls," housekeepers, nursing mothers and feeble women generally, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the greatest earthly boon, being unequalled as an appetizing cordial and restorative tonic.

#### A STRENGTHENING NERVE.

"Favorite Prescription" is unequalled and is invaluable in allaying and subduing nervous excitability, irritability, nervous exhaustion, prostration, neuralgia, hysteria, spasms, chorea, or St. Vitus's dance, and other distressing, nervous symptoms commonly attendant upon functional and organic disease of the womb. It induces refreshing sleep and relieves mental anxiety and despondency.

#### A SCIENTIFIC MEDICINE.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is

As we stand beside our granary door and scoop out the food that keeps the world alive, that ladens the great ships and heavy trains and fills the marts of trade and commerce, then let us not alone be proud of the fact that we have nobly done our part along this line, but let us also triumph in the fact that physically, mentally and morally the man behind the plow stands the peer of all his fellows.

We found this article in the Inland Farmer. Commenting upon it, its editor says:

(Note.—Mr. Shroyer believes in and practices his doctrine, as above set forth. We have in our possession a beautiful photograph of his cottage home, with its surrounding grounds, trees, shrubbery, etc., and all show evidences of comfort mingled with good taste.—Editor.)

a scientific medicine, carefully devised by an experienced and skillful physician, and adapted to woman's delicate organism. It is purely vegetable in its composition and perfectly harmless in its effects in any condition of the system. For morning sickness or nausea, weak stomach, indigestion, dyspepsia and kindred symptoms, its use will prove very beneficial.

#### CURES OBSTINATE CASES.

"Favorite Prescription" is a positive cure for the most complicated and obstinate cases of leucorrhea, excessive flowing, painful menstruation, unnatural suppressions and irregularities, prolapsus or falling of the womb, weak back, "female weakness," anteversion, retroversion, bearing-down sensations, chronic congestion, inflammation and ulceration of the womb, inflammation, pain and tenderness of the ovaries, accompanied with "internal heat."

#### HOW TO LOOK BEAUTIFUL.

Young women or matrons should not allow themselves to look sallow and wrinkled because of those pains and weaknesses which become chronic and are the result of colds, tight lacing, and the imprudent care of the womanly system. Many a woman would look beautiful, have healthy color and bright eyes if it were not for those drains on her strength and those weaknesses which come all too frequently and make her life miserable. There is a ready-to-use Prescription, used a great many years by Dr. R. V. Pierce in his large practice as a Specialist in women's diseases, which is not like the many "patent medicines" on the market, as it contains neither alcohol nor any narcotic, or other harmful drug. It is purely vegetable. It is known as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and is sold by druggists.

#### DR. PIERCE'S PLEASANT PELLETS

cure biliousness, sick and bilious headache, dizziness, costiveness, or constipation of the bowels, loss of appetite, coated tongue, sour stomach, windy belchings, "heartburn," pain and distress after eating, and kindred derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels.

Persons subjected to any of these troubles should never be without a vial of the "Pleasant Pellets" at hand. In proof of their superior excellence it can truthfully be said that they are always adopted as a household remedy after the first trial.

One little "Pellet" is a laxative, two are cathartic. They regulate, invigorate and cleanse the liver, stomach and bowels. As a "dinner pill," to promote digestion, take one each day. To relieve the distress arising from over-eating, nothing equals one of these little "Pellets." They're tiny, sugar-coated, anti-bilious granules, scarcely larger than mustard seeds.

#### HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

How to live in health and happiness, is the general theme of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. This great work on medicine and hygiene, containing over 1000 pages and more than 700 illustrations, is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send 31 one-cent stamps for the cloth-bound volume, or only 21 stamps for the book in paper covers.

A specialty of some kind is a good thing for any farmer. It gives him a special interest in his work. This is an age of specialties. Life is too short and things too complicated to learn everything about every crop or stock that one can raise. By selecting one especially promising thing—may this be strawberries, plums, poultry or pigs—the subject can be studied up in all its details and bearings, and the greatest perfection in that line may be reached. This is and will be more profitable than mediocrity in all lines. The specialty, well followed, is apt to give a name and success.—Farm and Fireside.



## Farm Phones

Have a telephone service of your own. Cost of instruments small compared to convenience and time and money saved.

#### AGENTS WANTED

Write for free book explaining cost and how to organize, build and operate telephone systems among your neighbors. Cadiz Electric Co., 76 C. C. Building, Cadiz, La.